

# **Exhibit B**

# Consideration of Recognition of the North Carolina Green Party

**State Board Meeting • June 30, 2022**



**NORTH CAROLINA**  
STATE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

# How a Party Becomes Recognized in Our State



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# Creation of a New Party

- Group's candidate for Governor, or for presidential electors, received at least 2% of entire vote cast in last preceding general State election.
- By petition which is signed by registered and qualified voters in this State equal in number to 0.25% of the total number of registered voters who voted in the most recent general election for Governor. Must also obtain at least 200 voter signatures from each of 3 NC congressional districts.
- The party had a candidate nominated on the general election ballot of at least 70% of the states in the prior Presidential election.

# The Petition Process



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# Petition for a New Political Party

- Initiate Process
  - Submit petition request form to NCSBE.
- Signature Gathering
  - Obtain signatures of at least 200 registered voters from each of 3 NC congressional districts.
  - Obtain signatures from registered and qualified voters in this State equal in number to 0.25% of the total number of registered voters who voted in the most recent general election for Governor: 13,865
  - Use required heading (see next slide).



# Example of Blank Signature Sheet

## PETITION TO CREATE A NEW POLITICAL PARTY (NCGS § 163-96 (a)(2))

THE UNDERSIGNED QUALIFIED REGISTERED VOTERS IN \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY HEREBY PETITION FOR THE FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY  
TO BE NAMED \_\_\_\_\_ AND WHOSE STATE CHAIRMAN IS \_\_\_\_\_, RESIDING AT \_\_\_\_\_, AND WHO CAN BE  
REACHED BY TELEPHONE AT \_\_\_\_\_.

IT IS ILLEGAL TO SIGN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON TO A PETITION. (G. S. 163-221)

BOE ONLY	Line No.	Print your name (Must be printed legibly)	Residential street address	ZIP code	Birth date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Signature	Date (DD/MM/YYYY)
	1						
	2						
	3						
	4						
	5						
	6						
	7						
	8						



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# Filing Petition Signature Sheets

- Deadlines
  - To qualify for the 2022 general election, party submits sheets to the county board of elections (CBE) of the county in which the signatures were obtained by 5 p.m. on May 17, 2022.
    - *CBE returns checked sheets along with certification to the petitioner.*
  - Party submits checked signature sheets and certifications to NCSBE by noon on June 1, 2022.
- Other Instructions
  - Must be checked by the individual CBE.
  - May be submitted to the CBEs as collected to assess number of accepted signatures throughout the signature gathering.
  - Signatures must be original (use ink); no electronic signatures or photocopies.
  - No one may sign a petition on behalf of another person.





# County Petition Checking Process

County Board of Elections petition checking process per G.S. § 163-96(a):

- Verification to be completed within 2 weeks from the date submitted.
- Processed through SEIMS Petition Module.
- Examine names and signatures. Statute requires the signatures on the petition be checked against the registration records.
- Confirm if qualified and registered voter in the county.
- Generate report/certificate indicating number of credited and discredited signatures.

# SBE Review of NC Green Party Petitions



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# Signatures Credited & Discredited

- 13,865 required (with 200 signatures in 3 congressional districts)
- 22,521 submitted
- 15,953 validated by county boards and under review by NCSBE

Validated signatures over minimum requirement: 2,088

# Petition Review & Investigation

- Starting in early May, several CBEs alerted the NCSBE of irregularities identified during review of petitions.
- NCSBE opened an investigation.
- Staff reviewed every signature sheet received. Sheets were turned in as late as this week.

# Petition Review & Investigation

Numerous petition pages have obvious signs of fraud or irregularities, including:

- Same handwriting throughout and similar signatures
- Numerous lines with incomplete information, or where name, address, or date of birth was crossed out
- Petition sheets with partial dates of birth
- Duplicate voters
- Some of these sheets include the name/initials of the petition gatherer

Other issues include:

- Deceased or long-removed voters included (indicates submission of signature sheets from Green Party's pre-2018 petition effort)
- Signature pages identifying a long-ago chair for the party (also indicating submission of outdated signatures)



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# Petition Review & Investigation

Signature gathering consultants/firms hired by Green Party or potential candidate:

- One firm collected around 100 signatures
- Another firm collected more than 1,000 signatures
- 3 individuals hired by contract collected 1,472 signatures; only 624 accepted

Investigations staff and others at NCSBE are continuing to review.



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# Example

## PETITION TO CREATE A NEW POLITICAL PARTY (NCGS § 163-96 (a)(2))

Josh M

THE UNDERSIGNED QUALIFIED REGISTERED VOTERS IN WAKE COUNTY HEREBY PETITION FOR THE FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY TO BE NAMED NORTH CAROLINA GREEN PARTY AND WHOSE STATE CHAIRMAN IS ANTHONY NDEGE, RESIDING AT 1713 CHAPEL STREET, WINSTON-SALEM 27127, AND WHO CAN BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE AT 336-577-1421.

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IT IS ILLEGAL TO SIGN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON TO A PETITION. (G. S. 163-221)

BOE ONLY	Line No.	Print your name (must be printed legibly)	Residence Address and City/Town (no PO Box numbers)	ZIP code	Birth date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Signature
X	1	Linda Cox	912 Park Summit Blvd	27523		Linda Cox
X	2	Michelle Hightower	107 Rivergreen Ct	27518		M.A.
X	3	Janie Dupree	8205 Cunningham Rd	27597		Janie Dupree
X	4	Zaher El-Assi	901 Wayne Dr	27608		Zaher El-Assi
X	5	Cassie Inscho	124 Greemar Dr	27540		Cassie Inscho
X	6	Sharron Brehl	1040 Wake Towne Dr #410	27609		Sharron Brehl
X	7	Anthony Fiorentino	1019 Windy Rd	27502		Anthony Fiorentino
X	8	Channing Duke	904 Olive St	27502		Channing Duke
X	9	Kathleen Knox	332 Briarfield Dr	27502		Kathleen Knox
X	10	John Matson Jr	236 Terrell Dr	27571		John Matson Jr
X	11	Elaine Dunavant	2933 Mavisbank Cir	27502		Elaine Dunavant
X	12	Tawanda Lassiter	747 Maypearl Ln	27610		Tawanda Lassiter
X	13	Jason Ipack	2509 Cotesworth Dr	27587		Jason Ipack
X	14	Erica Flory	124 Winchester Dr	27591		Erica Flory
X	15	Diana Brown	8331 Bratt Ave	27587		Diana Brown

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORMS TO THE OFFICE OF (COUNTY) BOARD OF ELECTIONS.



# Example

Josh M

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THE UNDERSIGNED QUALIFIED REGISTERED VOTERS IN WAKE COUNTY HEREBY PETITION FOR THE FORMATION OF A NEW POLITICAL PARTY TO BE NAMED NORTH CAROLINA GREEN PARTY AND WHOSE STATE CHAIRMAN IS ANTHONY NDEGE, RESIDING AT 1713 CHAPEL STREET, WINSTON-SALEM 27127, AND WHO CAN BE REACHED BY TELEPHONE AT 336-577-1421.

IT IS ILLEGAL TO SIGN THE NAME OF ANOTHER PERSON TO A PETITION. (G. S. 163-221)

BOE ONLY	Line No.	Print your name (must be printed legibly)	Residence Address and City/Town (no PO Box numbers)	ZIP code	Birth date (DD/MM/YYYY)	Signature
✓	1	Corinthia Evans	2002 Manderleigh Dr	27545		C. Evans
	2	<del>Corinthia Evans</del>	<del>2002 Manderleigh Dr</del>			
✓	3	Keyonte Cherry	812 Terrastone Pl	27519		Keyonte Cherry
✓	4	Demonte Blue	1663 Plexor Ln	27545		Demonte Blue
✓	5	Shaneeka Bell	1151 Cannonball Run #301	27545		Shaneeka Bell
✓	6	Jacob Green	2830 Manorcrest Ct #231	27609		Jacob Green
✓	7	Dondre Griffin	5800 Peacecrest Dr	27610		Dondre Griffin
✓	8	Eboni Young	506 Glenbrook Dr	27610		Eboni Young
✓	9	Deasia Goodman	5324 Baywood Forest Dr	27545		Deasia Goodman
✓	10	Summer Hardin	7837 Harps Mill Woods Run	27615		Summer Hardin
✓	11	Karrin Kennard	2513 Shepherd Valley St	27610		Karrin Kennard
✓	12	Lofton Woods	2301 Fox Ridge Manor Rd	27610		Lofton Woods
✓	13	Tajasia Pitts	410 Montview Way	27545		Tajasia Pitts
✓	14	Camryn Hunter	404 Little Acres Dr	27545		Camryn Hunter
✓	15	Nyji Thomas	2253 Ballston Pl	27545		Nyji Thomas

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORMS TO THE OFFICE OF (COUNTY) BOARD OF ELECTIONS.



# Petition Review & Investigation

Recent outside complaints:

- 145 signatories seeking to revoke their signatures.
- 3 signatories claiming they did not sign (staff investigators have separately identified a handful of people whose signatures were counted but who say they never signed).
- 19 signatories claiming the Green Party never “inform[ed] the signers of the general purpose and intent of the new party,” as required in G.S. 163-96(b).
- Allegations of apparently fraudulent signatures and signatures validated after the deadline.



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# Staff Recommendation

- Number of known questionable signatures exceeds the 2,088-signature threshold.
- Requires further investigation, including subject interviews.
- Table consideration to future date.

# Criminal Penalties

- Class 2 misdemeanor to sign the name of another person to any petition under G.S. 163-96 for the formulation of a new political party. G.S. § 163-221(a)(2).
  - Any name signed on a petition, in violation of this section, shall be void.
- Class I felony for “any person knowingly to swear falsely with respect to any matter pertaining to any primary or election”. G.S. § 163-275(4).



# Staff Recommendations for Legal Changes

- Request legislative changes, including making it illegal to pay signature gatherers per petition signature.
  - It is already a crime to pay per voter registration form or absentee request form. G.S. §§ 163-237(d4) and 163-274(15).
- Propose rules to help reduce fraudulent petitions, including requiring each petition page to identify the person gathering the signatures and to disclose their contact information.



# Thank You!



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